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BOROUGH OF BRIDLINGTON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1943

by

P. D. H. CHAPMAN,

M.B., B.Ch. (Camb.). Acting Medical Officer of Health.

including

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF

THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

by

F. W. O'HARA, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:
Councillor H. R. MILNER.

Members:
THE MAYOR (Alderman T. D. Fenby, J.P.).
Alderman J. NEWBY (Deputy Chairman).
Councillor H. EYRE.
Councillor F. S. HUNTER.
Councillor R. MAW.
Councillor J. W. WILSON.

Health Sub-Committee:
THE MAYOR (Alderman T. D. Fenby, J.P.).
Alderman A. E. FLIGG.
Alderman J. NEWBY.
Councillor H. R. MILNER.
Councillor J. W. WILSON.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee:
Mrs. A. EVERINGHAM.
Mrs. A. E. FLIGG.
Mrs. H. HARKER.
Mrs. E. LAMBERT.

Town Clerk:
GEORGE MELVIN.

Medical Officer of Health:
EDWARD T. COLVILLE, M.D., M.B., B.S. (Hons.), B.Hy., D.P.H.

Acting Medical Officer of Health:
P. D. H. CHAPMAN, M.B., B.Ch. (Camb.).

Borough Engineer
A. EVERINGHAM.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:
F. W. O'HARA, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Health Visitors:
Miss E. SMITH, H.V.Cert., C.M.B., S.R.N.
Mrs. W. M. WILDE, H.V.Cert., C.M.B., S.R.N.

Matron — Sanatorium:
Miss D. K. LEACH, S.R.F.N.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Port Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent of Maternity and Child Welfare and Isolation Hospital:

* E. T. COLVILLE, M.D., M.B., B.S. (Hons.), B.Hy., D.P.H.

Acting Medical Officer of Health, Port Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent of Maternity and Child Welfare and Isolation Hospital:

P. D. H. CHAPMAN, M.B., B.Ch. (Camb.).

Acting School Medical Officer:

W. O. C. JARRATT, M.B., B.S.

Senior Sanitary Inspector, Housing Inspector, Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act:

F. W. O'HARA,

M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., R.S.I., Meat and other Food Certificates.

Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector:

C. S. GRAHAM, Cert. S.I.B., Meat and other Food Certificates.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

* K. O. BATTEN, Cert. S.I.B., Meat and other Food Certificates.

Clerks, Sanitary Department:

K. COUPLAND, T. H. MEREDITH, Miss O. ANDERSON.

Clerk, Health Department and School Clinic:

Miss V. J. CAMPEY.

* Absent on Active Service.

SUMMARY OF HEALTH REPORT FOR 1943.

General Statistics.

Borough	Bridlington
Area (acres)	5,703
Population :	
1931 Census (corrected for non-residents)	19,417
1944 Registrar General	17,810
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931)	4,776
Total number of Dwellings (Census 1931)	6,148
Number of Dwellings, 1940 (estimated)	—
Number of Uninhabited Houses, 1940 (estimated)	—
Rateable Value (end of Rating Year, 31st March, 1943)	£206,550
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£677
Density of Population per acre	3.12
Total Births	305
Birth-rate	17.74
Total Deaths	326
Death-rate	18.41
Comparability Factor to correct age and sex distribution in the Borough (Census 1931)	Not available
Death of Infants under one years of age (Legitimate 26, Illegitimate 4)	30
Infant Mortality	98.36 per 1,000 births
Number of Illegitimate Births	33
Percentage of total Births	10.82
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0
Cancer Death-rate	3.03 per 1,000 of the Population
Phthisis Death-rate	0.95 per 1,000 of the Population

Health Department,
Town Hall,
Bridlington,
31st May, 1944.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Bridlington.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Interim Report on the Health Services of the Borough for the year 1943.

This report is my "Swan Song." Dr. Colville has been invalided from the Army and is resuming his appointment as Medical Officer of Health on June 1st. I have been your Acting Medical Officer of Health for the best part of five eventful years. During these years Bridlington, like Great Britain, has changed over from defensive to offensive activities and the work of the Health Department has varied to meet the changed conditions. From the outbreak of War the Ministry of Health has stressed the need to maintain the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres at full efficiency. This has been done and further facilities have been provided by the Council which have made the service given by the Child Welfare Centre more complete.

Improvements have also been effected in the equipment of the Sanatorium, the staff of which has had to handle a great increase in patients.

During a war, Tuberculosis, Venereal Diseases and Parasitic Skin Diseases inevitably increase. Equally inevitable is the increase in forms and returns asked for by the Ministry of Health, though the paper shortage has been a valuable deterrent. Of the other war-time diseases, the Tuberculosis death-rate has increased from 0.47 per 1,000 of the population in 1941, to 0.58 per 1,000 in 1942, and to .95 per 1,000 in 1943. The parasitic skin diseases such as Scabies have been effectively controlled. The incidence of Venereal Disease does not seem to have greatly increased in Bridlington, and for this happy state of things the credit must go to the R.A.M.C.

I take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Committee for their valuable assistance and support, and have pleasure in recording my grateful thanks to every member of the staffs of the Health and other Departments for their co-operation and assistance.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant.

P. D. H. CHAPMAN,
Acting Medical Officer of Health.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Lloyd Hospital.

No important changes have been made in the role assigned to this Hospital by the Emergency Medical Service Authorities since my last report.

The Avenue Hospital.

This Hospital is administered by the Public Health Committee of the East Riding County Council. There is a modern Maternity Block and Ante-Natal Clinics are held weekly. It is not under the Emergency Medical Service scheme. In the Maternity Block of the Hospital 454 babies were delivered during the year.

Infectious Diseases Hospital.

This is maintained by the Local Authority and cases are also admitted from the Bridlington Rural District by agreement with that Authority, from the East Riding County Area if requested, and by arrangement from the Army and the Air Force.

Two more wards have had modern slow combustion stoves installed. The previous stoves were worn out and extravagant in fuel.

The total number of beds and cots available is 42.

STAFF. The Nursing Staff now consists of Matron, Sister, three Assistant Nurses and two Probationers.

The following cases were admitted :

Varicella	5
Scarlet Fever	93
Diphtheria	9
Paratyphoid B	2
Encephalitis	1
Measles	24
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2
Dysentery	1
Scabies	118
Mumps	17
Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Erysipelas	3
Contact Scarlet Fever	2

Tuberculosis.

The Clinic previously held at the Lloyd Hospital is now transferred to separate quarters at No. 25 Cambridge Street.

The Register of Tuberculosis for the Borough for the year was as follows :—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1st January, 1943	41	51	14	23	55	74
31st December, 1943	42	49	14	25	56	74

Orthopaedic.

There is no change in the arrangements for orthopaedic treatment.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

There is no change in the arrangements for dental and X-ray treatment of children under five who attend the Centre.

Efforts have been made continually to protect children from neglect and cruelty by their parents. Three persons were prosecuted with the help of the N.S.P.C.C. and all three culprits were sent to prison. It is deplorable that the law as it now stands is unable to prevent cruelty to children except in its grossest forms. If, as is to be hoped, children's allowances become universal, steps ought to be taken to ensure that the children benefit. It is no use for social planners to ignore the class of parents known in noble circles as the "Social Problem Group" or—as I prefer to call them—"The Sluts." They exist everywhere and flourish exceedingly in the big cities. If the sluts are not made to shoulder their responsibilities by disciplinary action, a condition will arise in which they produce the babies and the hard-working section of the nation rears them—a thoroughly disgenic state of affairs.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

On December 31st, 1943, it was estimated that 49.6% of the child population under five years of age, and 83% of the children between five and fifteen years, had received the complete course of immunisation.

The following is a summary of the immunisations done :—

Course completed between :	Under 5 yrs.	Over 5 yrs.
1st January, 1943, to 30th June, 1943 ...	108	56
1st July, 1943, to 31st December, 1943 ...	148	48

Ophthalmic Treatment.

There is no change in the arrangements.

School Clinics.

There has been no change in the arrangements. A detailed School Report has been made by Dr. W. O. C. Jarratt, Acting School Medical Officer.

Water.

The Waterworks of the Borough both at Mill Lane and at Burton Agnes are fitted with Chlorination Plants. The usual strength of chlorine used is .05 parts per million. During exercises by the Military over the gathering grounds and for six weeks after, the strength is increased to 0.1 parts per million.

Scabies.

This war-time scourge has been successfully kept under control. Supervised treatment is given to the whole household concerned, and if necessary the whole family is transferred to the Sanatorium for treatment there.

Infectious Diseases Notified.

Scarlet Fever	58
Diphtheria	3
Pneumonia	21
Tuberculosis (pulmonary)	19
Tuberculosis (non-pulmonary)	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	9
Measles	297
Whooping Cough	33
Erysipelas	4
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2
Varicella	1
Malaria	1

Bacteriological Examination of Specimens.

During the year the following specimens have been submitted for bacteriological examination :—

Sent by Medical Practitioners :	Results : Positive.	Negative
Van der Bergh	1	—
Slides for Gonococci	1	—
Tissue Fluids for Tubercle Bacilli	—	11
Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci	—	29
Faeces for Enteric Fever	2	—
Widal	—	8
Urine for Tubercle Bacilli	1	2
Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli	13	49
Faeces for Enterica	—	3

	Results: Positive.	Negative
Dysentry	—	8
Blood Culture	1	5
Wasserman	—	2
Diphtheria	2	43
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	2
Blood Sugar Estimation	—	1
Urine for organisms	1	8
Vaginal Swabs for Streptococci	2	8
Sent by Medical Officer of Health:		
Diphtheria	4	12
Faeces for Dysentery	1	3
C.S.F. Fluid	1	1
Wasserman	—	2
Widal	—	3
Blood Chlorestrol Estimation	—	1
Blood Urea Estimation	—	1
Blood Films for Malaria	—	2

BOROUGH OF BRIDLINGTON

REPORT OF SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

Health Department,
Town Hall,
Bridlington.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Bridlington.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1943, which is again an interim one. The usual statistics and records will be carefully preserved for consideration at a later date.

No important change has taken place in my Department during the year, but the return of Mr. Graham to his pre-war duties has added more efficiency with respect to inspection work generally, and it is comforting to know that matters requiring attention can be dealt with more expeditiously than before.

Inspections.

During the year the total number of inspections and visits for all purposes amounted to 6,370.

Of these 2,163 were made in connection with general sanitation, 3,034 were made in connection with the Public Health and Housing Acts, 1,014 in connection with meat and food inspections and the Food and Drugs Act, and 159 visits were made in connection with Infectious Disease.

Notices Served.

Four Statutory Notices and 249 Preliminary Notices were served during the year in addition to 27 Verbal Notices, and a large number of letters sent to Owners, Agents and Occupiers requesting them to carry out sanitary improvements and to abate various types of nuisances.

Closet Accommodation.

Total number of water closets in the Borough	9,474
Total number of dustbins in the Borough	8,169
Total number of dwelling houses with earth closets in the Borough	169
Total number of dwelling houses in the Borough	7,255

Housing.

No houses were erected during the year either by private enterprise or by the Corporation. There is a shortage of houses for the working classes. There are also a large number of unfit houses.

Inspection of Houses during the Year.

During the year 904 houses were inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

There are 58 cowsheds within the Borough.

No. of cowkeepers registered as wholesalers	17
No. of cowkeepers registered as wholesale and retail sellers	3
No. of cowkeepers registered to sell milk by retail only	16
No. of registered milk sellers (other than cowkeepers)	34
No. of registered milk sellers residing outside the Borough	1

Application for Registration.

	Number of Applications.	Granted.	Refused.
Cowkeepers	2	2	—
Dairies, Milkshops, etc.	—	—	—
Dairymen	—	—	—

Visits and Inspections.

Visits to cowsheds, milkshops and dairies	110
Number of defects found	3
Number of defects remedied	3

Milk Supply.

80 samples of milk have been submitted to the North Riding Laboratory, Scarborough, for Bacteriological and Biological Examination. 53 samples contained B. Coli in varying degrees.

Of 40 samples taken from Producers and Producer/Retailers in this Borough, 10 contained B. Coli.

39 samples were taken from supplies coming into the Borough, and 27 of these contained B. Coli in 2 or 3 tubes.

1 Accredited Milk sample from an outside source was found on Biological examination to contain Tubercle Bacilli. This case was investigated by the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the suspected animal was slaughtered. The post-mortem examination revealed that the cow was suffering from Tuberculosis.

2 samples of milk were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical examination in connection with a complaint from a Secondary School but were found to be satisfactory from a chemical point of view.

26 samples of milk were taken from Producer/Retailers for the East Riding War Agricultural Executive Committee and submitted to Beverley for Examination.

The Government's White Paper on "Measures to improve the quality of the nation's milk supply" was presented to Parliament during the month of July.

Paragraph 14 of the White Paper proposes that the functions of Local Authorities relating to the conditions under which milk, including designated milks, is produced at the farms are to be transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

My relations with Producers and Producer/Retailers of milk in this Borough are most cordial, and the conditions under which milk is produced are very satisfactory. The reports of the Pathologist on samples of milk submitted for examination are very encouraging, especially with regard to the absence of B. Coli, some remarkably low bacterial counts have been received too; every biological examination has given a negative result to Tubercle Bacilli.

Water Supply.

4 samples of water were submitted for full Bacteriological examination and 39 samples for B. Coli Examination to the North Riding Laboratory, Scarborough, and 2 samples of water were submitted to Captain J. A. Foster, Public Analyst, Hull, for Chemical Examination. All were obtained from the public supply and found to be satisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods.

There are 15 Slaughter-houses in the Borough. At the present time there is only one in operation, namely, the Government Controlled Slaughter-house in Rhodena Avenue.

368 visits were made to the Government Controlled Slaughter-house, and the carcases and organs of 18 Bulls, 188 Cows, 528 Bullocks, 94 Heifers, 186 Calves, 9,033 Sheep and 95 Pigs have been examined.

The weight of food condemned during the year was as follows:—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Whole Carcases	3	3	1	27
Carcases of which part or organ was condemned	6	1	2	10
Other foods	0	13	0	5

In addition, 668 eggs and 535 tins of various foods were condemned.

23 visits were made to Market Stalls ; the food exposed for sale was of good quality. The market, as a market, is almost non-existent owing to the scarcity of the various commodities.

25 visits were made to Butchers' Shops and Food Preparing Premises.

64 visits were made to Restaurants.

47 visits were made to Wet Fish Shops.

21 visits were made to Fried Fish Shops.

112 visits were made to Grocers' Shops.

Offensive Trades.

5 visits have been made to the Knackers Yard. The tripe-boiling premises have been closed down.

Shops Act, 1934.

147 visits were made to shops.

Factories Act, 1937.

As I mentioned in my previous reports, factories have greatly reduced in number since the outbreak of war ; 100 visits (including visits to bakehouses) have been made and one defect was found and remedied.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

The powers of the County Council under the above Act were delegated to the Borough on 5th November, 1943.

The Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector and I attended a two-day course of lectures and demonstrations arranged by the Ministry of Food on rodent control at Hull.

The course was held on the 21st and 22nd September, 1943. It was most instructive and a lot of valuable information was obtained.

A similar course was held at Bridlington on the 18th/19th November, 1943. One member of my staff and one manual member attended the course.

282 visits were made to premises in respect of complaints of the presence of rats, and it is estimated by the number of dead bodies picked up and the amount of poisoned bait taken that up to 31st December, 1943, 390 rats have been killed.

Infectious Disease.

121 visits were made in connection with notifiable infectious disease.

105 disinfections have been carried out for all causes including infectious disease.

Air Raid Shelters.

Cleansing and disinfection of air raid shelters has been carried out regularly by an employee of the Cleansing Department. It was found necessary to attend to certain shelters on Sundays, but, generally speaking, I can say that apart from one or two isolated instances our air raid shelters have not been misused and damage is negligible.

Public Cleansing and Salvage.

The figures for this section of the report are for the financial year 1942/43, which show that 1,799 loads of house refuse and 283 loads of trade refuse were collected, and the total weight of refuse (100% trade and 50% house refuse test weighings) was 5,586 tons 17 cwts. 3 qrs.

653 tons 9 cwts. of salvaged materials were collected and disposed of during the year. 257 tons 3 cwts. 1 qr. consisted of waste paper.

Salvageable materials show an increase of 8 tons 12 cwts. 3 qrs. as compared with 1941/42. Waste paper salvaged decreased by 35 tons 7 cwts. 3 qrs.

Again it has not been possible to maintain a weekly collection of refuse owing to the shortage and age of the labour employed; this has necessitated fortnightly collections of refuse in various parts of the Borough. Every effort has been made to collect the maximum amount of salvage.

All the refuse has been tipped at Fond Brigg Lane tip in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health. No complaints have been received during the year, and I am pleased to say the tip is completely devoid of rats. In accordance with my previous custom a considerable portion of the land filled in with refuse is under cultivation with vegetables. Other parts not immediately in use for refuse disposal are sown with grain.

I have to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their consideration and support, which has been unstinting at all times.

I have pleasure in recording my grateful thanks to every member of my staff and other Departments for their co-operation in matters affecting my Department.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F. W. O'HARA.

Coates & Hall, Printers, Marshall Avenue, Bridlington.